

The Citizen Budget Program

The 2003-04 Executive Budget responds to Findings of the Annual Survey of Citizen Service Priorities

Citizens told us to consolidate city government and to use resources better...

... Mayor Kilpatrick's Budget recommends

- Creation of a Program Management Office to eliminate redundancies in city government
- Consolidation of recreation programs from poorly attended centers
- Elimination of small departments by combining related functions to have more coordination and save overhead, such as for the Cultural Affairs and Tourism department and for the proposed reassignment of consumer affairs functions

Citizens told us to focus city services on the dreadful physical condition of the city. Garbage pickup is excellent, but people who dump open refuse should be punished...

... Mayor Kilpatrick's Budget recommends

- Proactive ticket writing on quality of life code violations, with higher penalties pursued with administrative hearings procedures and aggressive collections
- A new approach to bulk pickup and vacant lot maintenance
- Increased grass-cutting of city parks, up to a 10-day rotation
- A new approach to non-park forestry

Citizens told us that their biggest concern with the Fire Department is emergency medical services...

... Mayor Kilpatrick's Budget recommends

- Funds for "Echo Units" of trained EMS technicians to provide early response and free up traditional EMS units for life-threatening situations

Citizens are not satisfied with Police response time...

... Mayor Kilpatrick's Budget recommends

- Upgrading the emergency communications system with an 800 megahertz band to provide more reliable communication amongst the city's public safety agencies

The Citizen Budget Program includes Annual Public Budget Meetings, Youth meetings, and a Citizen Survey intended to engage Detroiters in the budget process and improve City officials' understanding of citizen priorities. For more information, see www.ci.detroit.mi.us.

